jurisdiction of the State/UT Administrations. Central Government has not reduced the normal allocations of rice and wheat to the States/UTs.

Availability and distribution of Kerosene

3051. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that complaints of non-availability of kerosene from Public Distribution System are on increase;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the control on kerosene distribution is full of loopholes and the food distribution officers or the District supply officers are not effectively maintaining the control; and

(c) whether Government will impose cross checks on distribution of kerosene?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c) Central Government makes bulk allocation of superior kerosene oil (SKO) to the States/UTs. Retail distribution of kerosene through Public Distribution System is a matter under the administrative jurisdiction of the State Governments/UT Administrations as the operational responsibility for implementation of Public Distribution System (PDS) is that of the State Governments and UT Administrations. The States/Union Territories undertake raids and surprise checks as part of their enforcement functions. The States/UTs have been advised to keepstrict watch over supply of essential commodities including kerosene and price situation and take remedial action under various Acts like Essential Commodities Act etc. to curb blackmarketing, hoarding and diversion of PDS commodities including kerosene so that the common man does not suffer. Central Government does not maintain information relating to complaints at Fair Price Shops level. While there have been demands for increased allocations of SKO from many States/UTs, the Central Government has not received complaints about non availability of SKO from any State Government/UT Administration. Central Government has no proposal to set up any separate enforcement machinery for cross checks on distribution of SKO.

Distribution of coarse cloth through PDS

3052. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 93 given in the Rajya Sabha on 20th March, 1995 and state:

(a) whether Government plan to introduce distribution of coarse cloth or khadi through the Public Distribution System; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b) Central Government has no proposal to procure and allocate coarse cloth and khadi to State Governments/UT Administrations for the Public Distribution System.

Consumer awareness programme organised by Bus

3053. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any consumer welfare awareness programme was organised at New Delhi by the Bureau of Indian Standards on the occasion of World Consumer Day in recent past;